

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DOTE-00 L-03 RSR-01

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R 230835Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6211

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, JA

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: DUAL RATE SYSTEM AND SPACE CHARTER APPROVAL

1. DURING DISCUSSION BETWEEN EMBOFF AND INUI (HEAD OF OVERSEAS DIVISION, MOT SHIPPING BUREAU) LATTER INDICATED PROSPECTS FOR SHIPPER ACCEPTANCE OF DUAL RATE SYSTEM PROPOSED BY THE CONFERENCES DID NOT LOOK PROMISING AT PRESENT. HE SAID JAPANESE SHIPPERS ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT THE SYSTEM WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS FOR THEM AS IT IS CURRENTLY STRUCTURED (I.E. WITH CONTRACT RATES BEING EXISITING RATES AND NON-CONTRACT RATES BEING EXISTING RATES INCREASED BY 9.5 PERCENT.) INUI SAID SHIPPERS CONSIDER THAT CONFERENCES SHOULD IMPLEMENT SYSTEM BY REDUCING EXISTING RATES BY 9.5 PERCENT FOR CONTRACT SHIPPERS. INUI SAID THIS WOULD BE MATTER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BETWEEN SHIPPERS AND CONFERENCES. (ACCORDING TO AUG 23 EDITION OF SHIPPING AND TRADE NEWS, CONFERENCES ARE PREPARING FOR DISCUSSIONS ON DUAL RATE SYSTEM WITH FREIGHT COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL OF ALL JAPAN EXPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER WITH A VIEW TO SUBMITTING AGREED RATES TO FMC FOR APPROVAL BY END OF MONTH.)

2. ON DIFFERENT MATTER, INUI COMMENTED THAT SAHARA (DIRECTOR-GENERAL, SHIPPING BUREAU) HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE AFTER THE JAPAN-US SHIPPING DISCUSSIONS IN APRIL THAT FMC WOULD GIVE LONG-TERM APPROVAL TO THE JAPAN-US EAST COAST SPACE CHARTER

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AGREEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, HE SAID, SAHARA HAD BEEN VERY

DISAPPOINTED WHEN THE AGREEMENT WAS ONLY EXTENDED FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE MONTHS FROM JUNE 30. HE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT MRS BENTLEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO VISIT TOKYO IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, AND INDICATED THAT SAHARA PROBABLY WOULD AGREE TO HOLD NEXT MEETING IN THE U.S. DURING OCTOBER.
SHOESMITH

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